

Message Text

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17

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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2259

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 0302

SINGAPORE FOR TIMM AND HORNEMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, MY

SUBJ: CIVAIR: KEY POINTS OF MEETING BETWEEN CAB OFFICIALS AND
MALAYSIAN CIVAIR OFFICIALS

1. MR. ROBERT D. TIMM AND MR. JAMES HORNEMAN, CAB OFFICIALS, AND
L. RICHARD JACKSON, U.S. EMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR, MET WITH SECRETARY
GENERAL IBRAHIM BIN MAHMUD AND DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL YOONG YEE
LOKE, CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, ON
17 JANUARY. KEY POINTS OF DISCUSSION WERE:

A. PANAM PASSENGER SERVICE. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY BY TIMM AND
HORNEMAN, IBRAHIM SAID GOM WOULD WELCOME PANAM PASSENGER SERVICE
TO KUALA LUMPUR AND/OR TO PENANG WHEN AIRPORT EXPANSION TO ACCO-
MODATE JUMBO JETS AT PENANG COMPLETED LATE 1976. ALSO STATED
JOHOR BAHRU AIRPORT, ACROSS CAUSEWAY FROM SINGAPORE, MAY BECOME
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AS FEASIBILITY STUDY BEING CONDUCTED ON
EXTENDING RUNWAYS. (NEW PRIME MINISTER DATO HUSSEIN ONN IS VERY
INTERESTED IN MAKING IT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.) IF EXPANSION
JOHOR BAHRU APPROVED, MALAYSIA WOULD HAVE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS
IN NORTH (PENANG), CENTER (KUALA LUMPUR), AND SOUTH (JOHOR
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BAHRU). PANAM PASSENGER SERVICE WOULD BE WELCOME ALL THREE

AIRPORTS EITHER AS DIRECT SERVICE OR EXTENSION FROM SINGAPORE.

B. INTERMEDIATE STOP - MANILA. WHEN ASKED ABOUT GOM VIEWS ON MANILA AS AN INTERMEDIATE POINT FOR PANAM, IBRAHIM REPLIED THAT SPECIFIC REQUEST SHOULD BE IN WRITING AT WHICH TIME GOM WOULD CONSIDER INCLUSION OF MANILA IN APPROVED ROUTE SCHEDULE.

NOTE: MALAYSIAN AIRLINE SYSTEM (MAS) PRESENTLY FLIES TWICE WEEKLY TO MANILA. MALAYSIA AND PHILIPPINES CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN NEGOTIATIONS ON ROUTE SCHEDULES AND FREQUENCIES OF FLIGHTS. GOM WOULD LIKE PHILIPPINE AIRLINES (PAL) TO BEGIN SERVICES TO KUALA LUMPUR.

C. SABAH AND SARAWAK. IBRAHIM SAID SABAH AND SARAWAK CONSIDERED INTERNAL MALAYSIAN ROUTES AND NOT AVAILABLE AS INTERNATIONAL ROUTES. MAS FLIES KUALA LUMPUR/KOTA KINABALU/MANILA. RUNWAY RECENTLY EXTENDED AT KUCHING, SARAWAK AIRPORT, BUT NO PLANS MAKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

D. MAS ROUTES TO U.S. IBRAHIM COMMENTED IT WOULD BE AT LEAST 3-5 YEARS BEFORE MAS WOULD CONSIDER SERVICE TO U.S. IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN REGION (E.G., PHILIPPINES), GOM ASKING FOR BEYOND POINTS LOOKING TOWARD FUTURE POSSIBILITY OF MAS GOING TO WEST COAST OF U.S., EITHER LOS ANGELES OR SAN FRANCISCO.

COMMENT: MAS WILL TAKE DELIVERY OF FIRST OF TWO DC-10'S IN AUGUST 1976. IBRAHIM SAYS DC-10 WILL BE USED ON KUALA LUMPUR/TOKYO ROUTE. DELIVERY OF SECOND DC-10 WILL BE 1977, BUT USE HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED.

2. FOR WASHINGTON DC: TIMM AND HORNEMAN MENTIONED THAT CAB UNDER IMPRESSION EXCHANGE OF NOTES WITH GOM ON 1974 CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS NOT YET FINALIZED. AS YOU KNOW, THERE NEVER WAS ANY QUESTION ON SUBSTANCE AND WE THOUGHT RECENT EXCHANGE OF NOTES RESOLVED EDITORIAL AND FORMAT CHANGES.
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